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Boston, 22d Jan. 1868.

Dear Garrison,

I am greatly obliged to you for the slips from the "Independent", & if ever man was put in a tight place by another, Purvis is that man by O. J. — How little credit a man does himself, or gets from others, by indulging in such loose, shambling assertions as R. Purvis did, — right in the face & eyes of all the facts. His behaviour is shabby. I had hoped to call on you today, but my steps were turned in another direction. I shall keep the slips, to be returned to you; & I shall want to see how Purvis meets the case.

— I was minded to write you on Sunday (day after our talk in Boston), & suggest your conferring with Anne Weston, & perhaps M. W. C., before deciding on your contemplated letter. But I concluded that you could best weigh the whole matter for yourself; & so you can. Yet I sh^d be glad to know, — & to have you know, — just how the case lies in both their minds. It w^d not interfere with your own decision of it. I confess, the more I think of it, the more I see reason for your making a reply.

— but, if made, it should be an extinguisher of all pretensions, on the part of the conductors of the Standard, to trustworthy character as editors, or common fairness as men. — I should like to show you a copy of a letter I wrote yesterday to a young lady who recd. from W. P. an invitation to their "Festival" tonight, endorsed by him thus, "Come and help swell the multitude, & oblige,

Yours truly W. P. (!) Jr.

The Stand. people have professed their readiness to publish a reply from you. So, if written, by all means (I think) give them the opp. to print it. Thus, all its readers would see — though at this very late day — the proofs of W. P.'s dishonest dealing with this case. It seems to me that if you print yr. answer only in a private circular, it will lose much of its effect.

For the truth of history, it might be well to have your reply; & some honestly-intentioned minds may be disabused.

But my belief is that very few persons indeed really restrain Phillips in his treatment of you.

Did I not see Mrs. Edwin Cheney's name among the callers of the Festival? Could you not ask her as to the grounds on which she renders this support to a paper, which proclaims the appropriation of Mr. Jackson's money to the Freedmen, a "perversion"? & how the N.E. Branch consents to receiving a fund, "robbed" from the Amn. A.S. Soc.? I think she ought to see where she stands & what she is doing.

I shall not fail to make further search, at Leicester (next week), for my letter to the "Standard".

There will be a quarterly payment of interest to be made to you, Feb. 1st; & as soon as S. E. Sewall comes back, we will seek an official interview with you, — i.e. a Sub-Committee of us.

Very truly Yours

Sam. May Jr.

I am still staying at Dorchester - but expect to be in Boston, Saturday to Monday - then, probably, to Leicester